



The NUNES Report

Nunes leads 'fair share' charge for Valley

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Congressional report shows lack of federal investment in Central Valley

Six Valley congressmen released a preliminary federal report that shows an eight-county area of the San Joaquin Valley persistently gets the short end of the federal funding stick.

In a joint press conference via satellite from Washington, D.C., Reps. Devin Nunes, Dennis Cardoza, George Radanovich, and Jim Costa said the Central Valley region ranks below historically impoverished regions around the nation, yet doesn't get the same level of federal investment.

Some of the basic findings include:

Per capita federal direct expenditures and obligations to the San Joaquin Valley were \$4,736 for fiscal year 2002, compared to per capita federal direct expenditures and obligations to the United States were \$6,814 for fiscal year 2002. That means that the San Joaquin Valley got \$2,000 less per capita compared to the national average.

The report also showed that the 2000 poverty rate for the San Joaquin Valley (20.5%) was significantly



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higher than the national rate (12.4%) and California (14.2%).

The final report, which will pool data from multiple sources and provide relevant analysis, will be released several weeks from now. The preliminary results, while not surprising, do begin to lay a foundation by which the lawmakers can begin to affect budget decisions as Congress enters its appropriations season.

"The data included in the report reflect what many in the Valley suspected: That the Central Valley continues to have many needs, and that we need more federal funding," said Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield. "I will continue to work with my colleagues to improve the Central Valley's, and California's, share of federal fund-

Where's my refund?

Taxpayers can check on the status of their individual Federal tax refund by visiting the "Where's My Refund" section of the IRS web site, www.irs.gov.

To ensure privacy, the IRS requires taxpayers to enter three pieces of personal information: SSN, filing status, and the exact whole dollar refund amount shown on the return. The system will tell taxpayers if the IRS has received their return, if there is a problem, and when the refund was deposited or mailed.

Taxpayers without internet access can call the IRS Refund Hotline at 1-800-829-1954.

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